

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. This is an Examiner's statement of reason for allowance.
2. Regarding the claimed terms, the Examiner notes that a "general term must be understood in the context in which the inventor presents it." *In re Glaug* 283 F.3d 1335, 1340, 62 USPQ2d 1151, 1154 (Fed. Cir. 2002). Therefore the Examiner must interpret the claimed terms as found on pages 1-26 of the specification. Clearly almost all the general terms in the claims may have multiple meanings. So where a claim term "is susceptible to various meanings, . . . the inventor's lexicography must prevail" *Id.* Using these definitions for the claims, the claimed invention was not reasonably found in the prior art.
3. The closest prior art Freeman et al (U.S. Pat. No. 6,356,288) which discloses a communication game system for executing a communication interactive game between two or more independent game systems each has its own game apparatus. However, Freeman singularly or in combination fails to disclose the recited feature:
4. As per claim 1 "receives information pertaining to another character that is controlled by an operation of the other game apparatus, display the other character on the display device based on the received information, and controls a display state of the other character with the display position of the other character on the display device determined based on previously received coordinate data from the other game apparatus such that the display state of the other character changes from a normal

display state to one of an obscure state, a blurred state, a blinking state and a semi-transparent state when a communication state with the other game apparatus deteriorates".

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

5. Please amend claim 1 as follows:

Claim 1, line 7, after "display", delete "unit", and add -- device--.

Claim 1, line 8, after "display", delete "unit", and add -- device--.

Claim 1, line 9, after "a processing", delete "unit", and add -- device"--.

Claim 1, line 10, after "on the display", delete "unit", and add -- device--.

Claim 1, line 11, after "operation", delete "unit", and add -- device--.

Claim 1, line 11, after "processing", delete "unit", and add -- device--.

Claim 1, line 14, after "display", delete "unit", and add -- unit--.

Claim 1, line 16, after "display", delete "unit", and add -- unit--.

Authorized by Eugene Lieberstein, Reg. No. 24,645.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pierre E. Elisca whose telephone number is 571 272 6706. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 to 5:00. Hoteler.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on 571 272 4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Pierre E. Elisca/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3714